Priority to textile sector

1099. DR. NARAYAN SINGH MANAKLAO: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that textile sector is receiving the utmost priority from Government through several reform measures;

(b) whether sick textile companies, especially National Textile Corporation are being revived through rehabilitation package;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor in the context of potential increase of India's share in world textile market?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA): (a) Yes, Sir. Government have taken a number of steps giving **a** boost to the textile sector, which include nationalisation of fiscal duties, Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme, Technology Mission on Cotton, Apparel Park Scheme and Textile Centre Infrastructure Development Scheme.

(b) and (c) In accordance with the Rehabilitation Schemes approved by the BIFR/Government, 65 unviable mills have been closed, 2 mills have been handed over to the Government of Pondicherry and 52 other mills have been identified for revival.

(d) Does not arise.

Closure of major mills in Gujarat due to floods

†1100. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether textiles industry has been adversely affected due to recent terrific floods in Gujarat and consequently many major mills are lying closed;

(b) if so, whether State Government has requested Central Government for financial assistance to restart these mills;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the financial assistance sanctioned by Central Government to reopen these textiles mills?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.